



## METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **METRO NASHVILLE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER RECOGNIZES APRIL AS NATIONAL 9-1-1 EDUCATION MONTH**

*Joins with national public safety leaders to promote 9-1-1 awareness and proper usage*

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Metro Nashville Emergency Communications Center (ECC) today began a month-long campaign to help citizens of all ages recognize the importance of 9-1-1 and the role they play in ensuring effective and efficient emergency response in times of crisis. Groups including the United States Congress and the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) have also recognized April as National 9-1-1 Education Month, and are encouraging the media, the 9-1-1 community, the wireless industry and public information providers to engage in 9-1-1 awareness and education activities this month.

“For forty years, 9-1-1 has served as the vital link between the American public and emergency services,” said NENA CEO, Brian Fontes. “Public education and awareness initiatives throughout the years have contributed in large measure to the incredible and ongoing success of the emergency communications system as a whole. It is our hope that all groups interested in promoting and enhancing the safety and welfare of the public will help deliver critical 9-1-1 messages this month.”

“As communications technologies and devices continue to improve and become more accessible, we must engage the public in ongoing education about the proper use of 9-1-1 and what to expect when you make an emergency call,” ECC Director Duane Phillips said.

Nashville ECC will celebrate National Public Safety Telecommunications Week during the second week of the month, April 12-18, 2009. This annual event honors the men and women who respond to emergency calls, dispatch emergency professionals and equipment, and render life-saving assistance to citizens across the United States every day. Several employee appreciation activities and events are planned during the week, including the 2008 Employee Appreciation Banquet and Awards Ceremony on April 15.

For more information, visit [www.nashville.gov/ecc](http://www.nashville.gov/ecc) and click on the National 9-1-1 Education Month link.

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